

OAKLAND CITY COUNCILMAN DICK
SPEES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Oakland City Councilman, Dick Spees, for a remarkable 24 year career in public service.

Dick Spees has represented Oakland's District 4 since 1979. He was elected to fill an unexpired term and was reelected in 1981, 1985, 1990, 1994 and 1998. He served as Vice Mayor of Oakland in 1983 and 1984 and again in 1994 and presently serves on four of the Oakland City Council's committees.

When Councilman Spees is not meeting with residents, participating in City Council meetings, attending community events or working diligently as founder of the Chabot Space and Science Center, you will probably find him at a meeting with one of the many boards and committees dedicated to developing Oakland. These boards and committees include: Governing Board, Oakland Base Reuse Authority; Co-Chair, BART-Airport Connector Stakeholders Committee; Executive Board, Association of Bay Area Governments; Member, Regional Airport Planning Committee; Executive Committee Chair, Chabot Observatory & Science Center; Vice Chair, Bay Area World Trade Center; Founder and Vice Chair, Oakland-Sharing the Vision, the Strategic Plan for Oakland; Member, Oakland Education Cabinet.

Dick Spees is not only an exemplary member of the Oakland City Council, but he goes far beyond the call of duty which is demonstrated through his work and dedication to many projects. For example, he spends many hours developing the District's neighborhood groups, developing and marketing the Chabot Space and Science Center, completing funding for a BART-Oakland Airport Connector, and advocating in Washington and Sacramento for various Oakland programs. He loves and cares for the people and the City of Oakland, California.

The City of Oakland has benefitted tremendously from the leadership and commitment of this remarkable public servant. I am proud to call Dick my friend and colleague. I ask Congress to join me and the constituents of California's Ninth Congressional District as we bid farewell and wish Councilman Dick Spees a long and happy retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF EDWIN "MAX"
KURLAND

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend and very first coach, Edwin "Max" Kurland, on being awarded the Saint Patrick Academy Crystal Shamrock Award for his dedication as a coach and teacher, his loyalty to his many friends, and his devotion to the Christian Brothers ministry. Max is truly the heart of the St. Patrick Academy Community.

Edwin "Max" Kurland was born and raised the youngest of three children on the west

side of Chicago. He attended Blessed Sacrament Elementary School and the Quigley Seminary before receiving a sociology degree from Loyola University in 1954. After a tour in the United States Army, he began his career at Blessed Sacrament.

I first met Max in 1951 when I was in seventh grade at Blessed Sacrament School. That was the year I was selected by Max to play on the "Blessed Sacrament 16" Softball team. He was a great coach and teacher, not only for sports, but also for everyday living.

Affectionately nicknamed "Max", he joined the St. Patrick faculty in 1954 as an assistant to Coach Dick Triptow. When Triptow left in 1959, Max began his career as head basketball coach that would span over thirty-five years.

With 653 wins, he ranks as one of the top ten coaches in Illinois history. Max was named East Suburban Catholic Conference Coach of the Year three times while winning ten conference championships, eleven State Regional titles, and one Sectional championship. His teams also won fourteen Thanksgiving Tournaments, two Chicagoland Prep Tournaments and six Christmas Tournament titles. Max was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame in 1980 as well as the Chicago Catholic League Coaches Hall of Fame in 1994. To top off his prestigious career, Coach Kurland became a charter member of the Shamrock Hall of Fame in 1995.

Outside of basketball, Max has been recognized by the Christian Brothers, receiving the LaSallian Award in 1982 and the Signum Fidei Award in 1994.

Mr. Speaker, Max Kurland has been a devoted coach and teacher and he continues to serve the community through his leadership. I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this truly dedicated and courageous man.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ST. LOUIS
GATEWAY CLASSIC SPORTS
FOUNDATION

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today in tribute to the St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation and its president, Earl Wilson, Jr. On Sunday, September 29, 2002, the Sports Foundation hosted the grand opening of its new 15,000 square foot, \$2.7 million headquarters. The building, located at 202 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive in St. Louis, Missouri, will house office space, a computer lab, gymnasium, auditorium, state-of-the-art boxing area, banquet facilities and classrooms. In addition a "Walk of Fame," which lined the sidewalk outside the new building was unveiled. The "Walk" honors African-Americans from Missouri who have made a positive impact on the St. Louis community and the nation.

As the Representative of the 1st Congressional District in Missouri, I was proud to participate in the opening of the new facility. Since its founding in 1994, the Gateway Classic Foundation has sent a strong message to our young people that someone cares about them, that someone will invest in their skills

and talents and provide positive alternatives to negative influences. The Foundation's community outreach has increasingly emphasized the importance of building a better future for the youth in St. Louis, through programs that target their educational, health, intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual development.

Every year, the Foundation stages the Gateway Classic college football game and hosts other sporting events such as high school basketball tournaments, track and field competitions and boxing matches. In nine years, the Foundation has donated more than \$2.9 million to local charitable organizations and has awarded 35 full, 4-year scholarships to students to attend Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The 17 "Walk of Fame" inductees are true heroes, not just to the black community, but to our nation as a whole. In sports and entertainment, the inductees were: Jackie Joyner Kersee, Elston Howard, Dick Gregory, and members of the 5th Dimension.

In government, the inductees were: Congresswoman Maxine Waters, former St. Louis Mayor Freeman Bosley, Jr., U.S. Army General Roscoe Robinson, Jr., U.S. Army Air Corps officer Wendell Pruitt, former St. Louis Alderman Wayman Smith, Jr., and former Congressman William L. Clay, Sr.

Other inductees were: Reverend James E. Cook, Dr. Julia Davis, Civil Rights activist Percy Green, Nanny Turner Mitchell, Homer G. Phillips, Margaret Bush Wilson, and Nathan B. Young.

All of these inductees are priceless assets to the St. Louis Community and the nation. I salute them for their achievements and commend the Foundation for seeking to honor these individuals.

The Foundation also recognized and presented special awards to its minority contractors for their part in the construction of the new headquarters. The minority owned component included; Interface Construction Company, contractor; Fleming Corporation, architect, and Kwame Building Group, construction manager.

In closing, I would like to extend "Birthday Greetings" to Earl Wilson, Jr., who celebrated his 70th Birthday yesterday. On behalf of his family and many friends in the 1st Congressional District, I wish him good health, continued success and many more birthday celebrations!

ACTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF
KAZAKHSTAN

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, Once again I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a news report concerning the ongoing undemocratic actions of the President of Kazakhstan. In the Wall Street Journal report that I would ask to insert into the RECORD today, the correspondent Steve LeVine detailed a series of bizarre actions by President Nazarbayev to silence his critics from within the government, to silence any opposition from the news media and to further consolidate his power. I believe it is important for members of this body to pay closer attention